

were no oil spills. I think they have gotten a lot safer, but don't come up here and say there are no oil spills. Let's be realistic about it. Let's use the most modern techniques where we are going to drill in those 32 million acres out in the gulf that are leased but not drilled.

After Katrina, 7.5 million gallons of oil were spilled. This satellite image was taken by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 4 days after Katrina.

If you do not believe me because I am saying it, let me point you to the report that was produced by the Bush administration after Katrina. This is from "The Federal Response to Hurricane Katrina, Lessons Learned." It has the seal of the U.S. Government, written in February 2006. I want to give you the quote on page 8 of this report:

In fact, Hurricane Katrina caused at least ten oil spills, releasing the same quantity of oil as some of the worst oil spills in U.S. history.

Louisiana reported at least six major oil spills of over 100,000 gallons and four medium spills of over 10,000 gallons. All told, more than 7.4 million gallons poured into the Gulf Coast region's waterways, over two-thirds of the amount that spilled during America's worst oil disaster, the rupturing of the Exxon Valdez tanker off the Alaska coast in 1989.

That is the administration's own report.

In the next hurricane that came a few weeks later, Hurricane Rita, a large vessel struck a submerged oil platform that sank during the storm. Up to 3 million gallons of oil spilled in the gulf because of that, and only half of that oil was recovered.

There have been plenty of technological advances on safety. But it has not ensured the safety of all that oil infrastructure that Senator LANDRIEU showed you an aerial photo of in the Gulf of Mexico.

Listen to what the Bush administration's Minerals Management Service predicts. They predict there will be one oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico of 1,000 barrels of oil each year, and one spill of at least 10,000 barrels of oil every 3 to 4 years in the future. That is their prediction.

And, of course, if we have another Katrina—and remember, Katrina was only a Category 3 storm, which is up to 135 miles per hour. Guess what would happen if you get to a Category 5, which are winds in excess of 146 miles per hour, and the destructive forces of each mile per hour, when you get into that category, go up exponentially.

Well, I think I made my point. More intense hurricanes could mean more big spills and more damage to our fragile coastline and wetlands, our military mission, our gulf coast beaches, and the tourism industry they support, and the ecosystem. It could be devastating and decimated by a huge oil spill.

Now, we have to have balance because we are behind the eight ball since we import two-thirds of our daily consumption of oil. What this Senator

wants is for us to balance the approach to this: R&D, alternative fuels, conservation, stretch the envelope, develop new engines, drill for oil, and do it in a responsible way where we have already provided the leases.

#### COMMEMORATING THE ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I welcome the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., to Capitol Hill in celebration of its centennial anniversary.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. is our Nation's first African-American sorority, and was founded on January 15, 1908. Since then, the sorority has always exemplified its motto of "being of service to all mankind."

Over the course of ten decades, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., has grown its membership to include over 200,000 members throughout the United States, Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean. Through the years, the sorority has remained committed to improving the lives of countless Americans through its involvement in programs including the Mississippi Health Project, the Job Corps, and the African Village Development Program.

In my home State of Nevada alone, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.'s Theta Theta Omega Chapter has provided over \$100,000 in scholarships to deserving African-American female Clark County high school students, while its Kappa Xi Chapter has a distinguished record of service both on the University of Nevada Las Vegas campus and throughout the community.

In the coming century, I am certain that this illustrious organization will continue to empower communities and respond to the increasingly complex issues facing the world. I commend the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., for their 100 years of distinguished service to our great Nation.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, this year we are celebrating Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. sorority's 100th birthday. This week, more than 20,000 members from all over the country have come to Washington, DC, to participate in a week-long program of forums and seminars with a focus on leadership, sisterhood and service, known as the Centennial Boulé. The theme of this week's celebration is the "Centennial Commitment to Leadership."

The week's events will culminate in today's Unity March where members from the nine African-American Greek fraternities and sororities marched to the Capitol.

AKA's International President, Barbara McKinzie, who has lived in Shreveport, LA, says the qualities that have sustained AKA for a century are "sisterhood and service." Her administration is committed to ESP: Economics, Service and Partnership.

AKA is the first Greek-letter sorority established by African-American

women for African-American, college-educated women. It was founded by nine enterprising Howard University women, led by Ethel Hedgeman Lyle, on January 15, 1908.

Now the membership has grown to 975 chapters worldwide and is 200,000-strong. Among the famous AKAs are Maya Angelou, Gladys Knight and Alicia Keys; and Members of the House of Representatives include Eddie Bernice Johnson and Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas, and Diane Watson of California. Powerful women across America both in the private sector and government represent the AKA sisterhood. Three members of my staff are proud to be a part of this sisterhood: my office manager Alicia Williams, acting State director Tari Bradford, and my New Orleans constituent services representative Sheraé Hunter.

The AKA sorority, founded before women had the right to vote by women one generation away from slavery, has been an instrumental group in raising the profile of African-American women and has worked tirelessly to knock down barriers to advancement in our society. The sisterhood has consistently encouraged academic achievement, leadership and service.

Members remain active for their whole lives and are encouraged to contribute to their communities. Each chapter has its own community service focus. The Gamma Eta Omega Alumnae Chapter in Baton Rouge, for instance, raises money through an annual fashion show for scholarships for high school seniors and sorority undergraduates and also sponsors the Leadership Fellows Institute each year to promote leadership among high school students.

The Delta Lambda Omega Chapter in Shreveport gathers for "A Day On and Not a Day Off," where sisters take off work to volunteer in the community. Chapters all over Louisiana are similarly committed to their communities. In the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, AKAs from all over the country came to the aid of hurricane survivors along the gulf coast and helped with our recovery effort.

It is with great pride that we welcome all AKAs to the birthplace of the sisterhood, Washington, DC, as they embark on another groundbreaking century.

#### 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today is the 40th anniversary of Special Olympics, an organization that has touched the lives of people with intellectual disabilities in Nevada and throughout the country. This spring, I had the chance to meet with one such Special Olympics athlete: Cari Davis, a resident of Henderson, NV, who has been winning medals since beginning her athletic career in 1988. It is my privilege today to recognize the achievements of all Special Olympics athletes, as well as the